

University of Cambridge

TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY
AND OF ETHNOLOGY

FOR THE YEAR 1911

February 8, 1912.

Report of the Antiquarian Committee for the year 1911

Museum of Archaeology and of Ethnology, *February 8, 1912.*

The ANTIQUARIAN COMMITTEE beg leave to present their Twenty-seventh Annual Report to the Senate:

Work Done: The Committee regret to state that the hope expressed in their last year's Report that Block I of the new building would be ready for occupation in the autumn has not been realised, and that the ever-increasing congestion and consequent difficulties of carrying on the routine work of the Museum thus continue in an aggravated form. They are therefore, as last year, compelled to hold over the issue of the usual detailed list of accessions and to ask donors to the collections kindly to excuse the unavoidable delay in recording their names and gifts.

The Curator, through ill-health, has been prevented from attending at the Museum during several months of the year, and a great part of his time when on duty has had to be spent at the new Museum in personally seeing to details which are constantly arising as the building approaches completion.

The overhauling and labeling at the Newnham Warehouse of the Thomas Collection from Nigeria has also taken up much time, over 2000 specimens having been labeled up to date. A considerable number of these objects, which were broken in transit, have been mended.

Eighteen earthenware vessels forming part of the Local Collection have been restored, and over two hundred and fifty small objects mounted on boards.

COLLECTIONS: Among the most noteworthy accessions of the year may be mentioned:

A number of local antiquities of stone, bronze, clay, etc. purchased with the Cambridge Antiquarian Society's grant.

Two flint knives of distinct form and of remarkably fine workmanship from Upper Egypt. Presented by the British School of Archaeology in Egypt.

A set of eight earthenware vessels, seven representing figures of men and one of a bird, from Lake Guatavita, Colombia. Presented by J. W. L. Glaisher, Sc.D., F.R.S.

An ornate pair of French callipers, in steel of the 17th century, and six folding rules in brass by Parisian makers of the 18th century. Presented by the late Max Rosenheim, Esq., F.S.A., and Maurice Rosenheim, Esq.

A collection of carefully selected objects—weapons, implements, ornaments, etc.—from the Congo, collected by the Rev. Lawson Forfeitt, and presented by Jamieson B. Hurry, M.A., M.D.

A similar collection, including a *Latuka* brass helmet, from Uganda, collected by the donor, E. B. Haddon, M.A.

A collection of North Bornean arms, dresses, ornaments and charms, collected by the donor, I. H. N. Evans, B.A.

A set of five finely carved musical instruments and fifteen choice stone implements from New Zealand, presented by Professor Bevan.

Two collections from the Solomon Islands, including some rare objects from Bellona, presented, respectively, by the collector W. H. R. Rivers, F.R.S., and by C. S. Myers, M.D.

NEW MUSEUM: The Committee are pleased to be able to state that building operations are being continued by the erection of the first section of Block II (sanctioned by Grace, Dec. 2, 1911) of which the foundations are now being laid. This one-bay block, 40 ft. by 17 ft., will provide—at a cost of £2666—in a set of eight rooms occupying five stories, the offices for the Curator, the Disney Professor of Archaeology and the Reader in Ethnology, besides supplying a fair-sized temporary library and lecture room with other accommodation. There will thus be provided a most essential addition to Block I; but the main galleries and staircase tower still remain to be built before Block II is completed.

The Committee can only repeat the hope expressed by the New Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology Syndicate in their report of Nov. 2, 1911: “That such generous donations may be made to the Building Fund as shall enable the University to complete the whole block in the near future and thus supply the main galleries in which the bulk of the collections may be systematically arranged and exhibited.” Only when this has been accomplished will the Department be properly established, and not till then will the magnificent material, which has for so many years been accumulating from all parts of the world, be available for teaching purposes and research.

BUILDING FUND : Since the issue of the last Report, £234, as shewn below, has been subscribed, making a total (inclusive of interest) of £19,251 collected up to date. Of this sum, £12,500 has been allotted to Block I (now in course of completion), £2666 to Section A, Block II (in course of erection), and £449 to Furniture and Fittings. This leaves a balance of £3626 in hand towards the cost of Section B, which is estimated at £8500.

	£	s.	d.
For Fabric:			
By Subscriptions previously acknowledged	17948	11	0
Professor Bevan (2nd donation)	100	0	0
Professor Sir Joseph Larmor, M.P., Sec. R.S. (2nd donation)	25	0	0
A. VV. Ward, Litt.D., <i>Master of Peterhouse</i> (8th annual subscription)	10	10	0
Harvey B. G. Clark, Esq.	5	5	0
Julius C. Drewe, M.A.	5	0	0
Miss Miller	5	0	0
In smaller sums	3	10	0
Total of accrued Interest up to date (approximately)	700	0	0
For Furniture and Fittings:			
Previously acknowledged (£705, less £336. 2s. 5d. legacy duty)	368	17	7
The Committee	80	0	0

ACCESSIONS FUND: The following subscriptions and donations have been received during the past year:

	£	s.	d.
Professor Bevan.	100	0	0
The Cambridge Antiquarian Society	30	0	0
C. S. Myers, M.D.	26	5	0
John Venp, Sc.D.	10	0	0
Baron Anatole von Hugel	5	5	0

Small donations amounting to £4. 1s. 6d. have also been received for an Illustration Fund, which has recently been started by the Curator to defray the cost of more fully illustrating the Museum Issue of the Annual Report.

The Committee have pleasure in availing themselves of this opportunity to express their gratitude to all who have so generously contributed to these Funds.

ACCOUNTS: The accounts for the year have been audited by the Committee and will be found incorporated in the University Accounts.

The Committee cannot allow the present Report to go forth without some reference to an event which happened subsequently to the end of the year 1911, to which the Report properly refers. Lord Stanmore died in London on January 30 of the present year. As the Hon. Sir Arthur Gordon he played an important part in determining the lines on which the Museum has been developed in the last twenty-seven years. It will be remembered that from 1875 to 1880 he administered the affairs of Fiji as its first Governor. During his residence there he formed a large and very valuable collection of objects of native manufacture: and when the Museum of General and Local Archaeology, as it was then called, was opened in 1884, he presented his collection; and this gift, supplemented as it was by a similar though smaller collection which was given by Mr Alfred P. Maudslay, M.A., at the same date, established for the first time the ethnological side of the Museum, and laid the foundation of the remarkable series of objects from Oceania which have since been acquired by the University.

Sir Arthur Gordon received the thanks of the University by Grace of the Senate, May 23, 1884.

In later years he continued to shew his interest in the department by the gifts he made to the collections and to the Accessions Fund. By his death the Museum loses an old and loyal friend.

R. F. SCOTT, *Vice-Chancellor*. C.

H. W. JOHNS.

JOHN VENN.

J. W. L. GLAISHER.

A. C. HADDON.

WILLIAM RIDGEWAY.

ARTHUR GRAY.

F. G. WALKER.

S. C. COCKERELL.